

MINUTES

UTAH OPTOMETRY LICENSING BOARD MEETING

July 17, 2006

Room 475 (formerly 4B) – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber Wells Building

CONVENED: 9:00 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 10:05 A.M.

Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:

Noel Taxin
Karen McCall

Board Members Present:

Bill G. Codner, Chairperson
Dane F. Dansie, OD
Jeffrey H. Seeholzer, OD
Wendy D. Gibbs
Russell W. Purdy, OD
Bonnie Barker Rice

Guests:

Annette Mahler, Executive Director, Utah
Ophthalmological Society

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Read and approve the April 5, 2006 Minutes.

Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Dr. Dansie seconded the motion. **The Board vote was unanimous.**

APPOINTMENTS:

9:30 A.M.

Rick S. Robison, OD, Probationary Interview

Dr. Robison met for his probationary interview.

Dr. Codner conducted the interview.

Dr. Codner reported that the Board received and reviewed all the reports from the supervisors. Dr. Codner encouraged Dr. Robison to request the supervisors to write more legible for easier reading.

He reported that Dr. Robison's drug tests have been negative. He asked Dr. Robison to report on his progress and his workload.

Dr. Robison responded that he has been out of town for a couple of weeks on vacation. He stated that he is working one or two days a week at Dr. Holloway's agencies and there might be one patient or 20. Dr. Robison stated that the work environment is low stress. He stated that the Wal-Mart employment has been steady at about 35 hours a week and it is also a low stress environment.

Dr. Codner asked who will fill out the reports when Dr. Robison works at the different locations for Dr. Holloway.

Dr. Robison responded that he left town before any forms were completed but either Dr. Holloway or one of the women in the office will fill out the reports.

Ms. Taxin stated that Dr. Brewer submitted reports for June but there has been nothing submitted for July. She asked Dr. Robison to be sure the July reports are submitted. Ms. Taxin stated that the reports were very positive and encouraged Dr. Robison to ask Dr. Brewer to write a more detailed report and include information regarding any files that may have been reviewed to be sure the case notes are complete.

Dr. Codner asked Dr. Robison to explain how the insurance reimbursement is done.

Dr. Robison responded that Dr. Holloway should have written that he is Dr. Holloway's backup and Dr. Holloway does the billing for insurance reimbursements. Dr. Robison reported that Dr. Holloway said he had checked and the insurance reimbursement people have confirmed that Dr. Holloway may bill for backup assistance.

Dr. Codner stated that Dr. Holloway addressed the normal provider billings but there is a clause in the insurance that does allow for a backup provider.

Dr. Dansie stated that Dr. Robison is not writing

any prescriptions so he believes there should not be any problems with the insurance billing.

Ms. Taxin asked if Dr. Robison had any concerns or questions for the Board.

Dr. Robison asked if the Board would approve for quarterly reports to be submitted.

Ms. Taxin stated that the June reports have been submitted and the July reports must be submitted before the Board would consider going to quarterly reports.

The Board concurred that if the July reports are submitted then Dr. Robison's reports will be due on a quarterly basis.

Ms. Taxin commented that Dr. Robison is in compliance and is on track with his probation.

Dr. Codner requested Dr. Robison to notify the Division and Board if he starts working on a permanent basis. Dr. Codner stated that the drug testing will continue for the entire probationary period.

An appointment was made for Dr. Robison to meet again October 23, 2006.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Report from Dr. Dansie on the June 2006
ARBO Las Vegas Conference

Dr. Dansie stated that ARBO stands for the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry. He stated that it is a group of Optometry Boards with each State sending their Board members to the ARBO meetings. Dr. Dansie stated that ARBO developed and owns the National Boards of Examiners in Optometry, NBEO.

Dr. Dansie reported that licensure by endorsement and licensing mobility was discussed with no decisions or recommendations made at this time.

He stated that SELMO is the acronym for the mobile license. Dr. Dansie stated that the SELMO committee has researched the requirements for

each State and has developed criteria that exceeds the State requirements. He stated that if States desire to accept the SELMO certification most of the background work has been completed for licensing. Dr. Dansie stated that there will be a fee to obtain the SELMO certification.

Dr. Codner stated that applicants need to be informed that Utah will accept the SELMO certification but must also meet the Utah requirements to be licensed.

Dr. Dansie stated that ARBO has a website and requested that all Boards access the website to review information. Dr. Dansie stated that he has reviewed the website and located it himself. He stated that it gives the license number, the date of licensure and the State or States where licensed. The website is www.arbo.org.

Dr. Dansie concluded by stating the conference was very informational.

Rules Review

Dr. Codner stated that he received a call from Ms. Taxin and Karl Perry, AAG, regarding a discrepancy in the Optometry Law and Rule. Dr. Codner requested Ms. Taxin to explain.

Ms. Taxin explained that questions have come to the Division regarding the definition of surgery for an Optometrist and if an Optometrist is allowed to administer lacrimal plugs, the little plug in the tear duct to treat dry eye.

Dr. Tanner commented that the issue of administering lacrimal plugs was discussed about 5 or 6 years ago and he thought it was no longer an issue as it was determined that the procedure is within the Optometrists scope of practice.

Dr. Codner stated that there are 3 levels of licensed Optometrists and in the rules (R156-16a-307) and there is a definition regarding the scope of practice for each level.

Dr. Dansie remarked that cutting of tissue is classified as surgery.

Ms. Taxin responded that there have not been any complaints so it appears that Optometrists are working within their scope of practice.

Board Chairperson

Dr. Tanner nominated Dr. Codner to serve another year as Board Chairperson. Ms. Rice seconded the nomination. **The Board vote was unanimous.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

ARBO Correspondence

The Board reviewed the following ARBO correspondence:

1. Information regarding OE Tracking database. **Dr. Dansie stated that this is the system the Board has discussed where the Optometrist is given a card and it is scanned at the first of the program and at the end for ARBO to track and retain the CE completed. Dr. Codner stated that the Optometrist will have to attend the CE program for credit.**
2. The Green Sheet, May 2006. **No action was taken.**

1-800-Contacts Article in Salt Lake City
Deseret News

The Board reviewed the information. **No action was taken.**

Association News, June 2006

The Board reviewed the information. **No action was taken.**

FYI

Dr. Codner stated that he received information regarding two contact lens organizations that have decided not to continue to do business in Utah as they are of the opinion that Utah Laws infringe on their rights. He stated that Hydrogel has given a press release stating they will no longer be doing business in Utah. Dr. Codner stated that Coopervision will continue to do business in Utah and will send information to the AG's office.

He concluded that the feedback is based on the new law.

The Board noted the information.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR:

October 23, 2006

MEETING ADJOURNED AT:

10:05 A.M.

Date Approved

Chairperson, Utah Optometry Licensing Board

Date Approved

Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &
Professional Licensing